



STATE OF MARYLAND

DHMH

Office of Health Services
Medical Care Programs

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

201 W. Preston Street • Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Governor - Michael S. Steele, Lt. Governor - S. Anthony McCann, Secretary

To: Maryland Medicaid Hospice Providers

From: Marc A. Blowe, Chief
Division of Community Long Term Care Services

RE: Implementation of Systemic Pricing of Hospice Room and Board Claims
Revised UB 92 Hospice Billing Instructions
Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) 837I Format

Date: July 19, 2006

This memo addresses the implementation of systemic pricing of hospice room and board paper claims. As you are aware, Medicaid manually priced hospice room and board paper claims in the past. Effective July 10, 2006, hospice room and board claims will be systematically priced by the Maryland Medicaid Information System (MMIS II) eliminating the time required to manually price paper claims submitted by hospice providers. Additionally, this method of pricing room and board claims enables providers to transmit these claims to the Medicaid Program utilizing the Electronic Data Interchange 837I format.

As a result of this systemic claims processing improvement and the need to meet HIPAA requirements hospice providers must **immediately** begin utilizing a new set of UB-92 billing instructions when submitting all paper claims for Medicaid reimbursement. **Providers may obtain the UB -92 Billing Instructions from the following website links,** <http://www.dhmh.state.md.us/mma/providerinfo/index.html> or <http://www.dhmh.state.md.us/mma/longtermcare/html/hospiceservices.htm>.

Please note effective September 1, 2006, any paper claims submitted utilizing the old UB-92 billing instructions (distributed in 2003) will be rejected by the MMIS II. The new billing instructions must be utilized to process all UB -92 paper claims submitted after August 31, 2006.

Provider training sessions to assist providers with submitting paper hospice claims using the new instructions will be offered on August 1 and 2, 2006 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. The sessions will be held in the O'Connor Building at 201 West Preston Street, Room L3. Hospice providers may reserve dates for the sessions by emailing the name of your facility and the staff members attending to the following email address:
hospice@dhmh.state.md.us.

The Department recommends and encourages all providers to transmit hospice claims electronically. Providers who wish to begin transmitting hospice claims electronically must do so by utilizing the EDI 837I format. Electronic transmissions are more efficient than UB-92 paper claim submissions. For example, claims transmitted utilizing the EDI 837I format are processed within a three week timeframe, whereas, UB-92 paper claim submissions require at least a six week timeframe for processing.

Hospice providers who wish to utilize the EDI 837I format must start by visiting, <http://www.dhmh.state.md.us/hipaa/testinstruct.html>. Companion guides created by Medicaid to further assist providers may be obtained at, <http://www.dhmh.state.md.us/hipaa/transandcodesets.html>. For additional assistance with EDI transmissions providers may call the EDI Help Desk at (410) 767-4682.

If you have any questions regarding Maryland Medicaid Hospice Program's policies, please contact Ms. Bernice Drumgo-Voss at (410) 767-1448. If you have any questions regarding UB-92 submissions related to hospice claims, please contact Mr. Ken Scollar at the Division of Medical Assistance Problem Resolution at (410) 767-5397.

MAB/BV/bc

cc: Samuel Colgain, III
Bernice Drumgo-Voss
Stacy Hromanik
Charlotte Krueger
Mark A. Leeds
Susan Steinberg